

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-07

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AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, OECD, EEC

SUBJECT: CIEC PREPARATIONS AT THE EC

REFS: (A) STATE 14278, (B) EC BRUSSELS 619, (C) EC BRUSSELS 490

1. SUMMARY: THE EC POSITIONS ON PROCEDURE IN THE CIEC APPEAR TO SUBSTANTIALLY COINCIDE WITH OUR OWN. CURRENT COMMUNITY THINKING IS THAT THE G-19 LIST OF TOPICS WOULD SIMPLY BE NOTED ON JANUARY 26, CIEC COMMISSION MEETINGS SHOULD BE SHORT WITH A 4-6 WEEK GAP BETWEEN THEM, AND THE FIRST COMMISSION MEETINGS WILL BE PRIMARILY ORGANIZATIONAL. THE COMMISSION CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THE OECD SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR COORDINATING COMMON POSITIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. MISSION PASSED THE SUBSTANCE OF REFTEL A TO CASPARI,
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THE EC COMMISSION COORDINATOR FOR CIEC, ON JANUARY 21.

ACCORDING TO CASPARI THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (COREPER) WILL DISCUSS CIEC ON JANUARY 22 IN PREPARATION FOR THE CO-CHAIRMEN MEETING ON JANUARY 26. THEY EXPECT TO COVER THE LENGTH OF THE FIRST MEETING, PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED WHERE WORK BEING COVERED IN THE FOUR COMMISSIONS OVERLAP, HOW TO TREAT THE G-19 LIST AND THE OBSERVER ISSUE. CASPARI'S INITIAL REACTION TO THE US POSITIONS OUTLINED IN THE REFTEL FOLLOW.

3. G-19 LIST OF TOPICS: CASPARI AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO COMMENTARY ON THE G-19 LIST AT THE JANUARY 26 CO-CHAIRMEN MEETING. THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN INTERNALLY PREPARING LISTS OF ITS OWN BUT AT THIS STAGE DOES NOT BELIEVE IT WILL WISH TO TABLE THEM SINCE IT APPEARS THAT EVERYTHING THAT WOULD BE INCLUDED ON THEIR LISTS IS ALREADY INCLUDED EITHER IN THE G-19 LISTS OR THE US LIST TABLED AT PREPCON II.

4. CASPARI WAS SURPRISED AT THE US PROPOSAL THAT THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES SHOULD CONSIDER AT THE NEXT MEETINGS OF THE BACKSTOPPING GROUPS, SUCH AS THE OECD, THE TWP AND THE IEA, TABLING INDUSTRIAL COUNTRY LISTS. HE HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE OECD XCSS, THE US HAD AGREED THAT THE OECD SHOULD ONLY BE USED FOR EXCHANGING VIEWS AND NOT DEFINING POSITIONS. HE CONFIRMED THAT DONDELINGER'S VIEWS AS TO ROLE FOR OECD GROUPS AS REPORTED REF B WERE FULLY SHARED BY COMMISSION.

5. TIMING OF COMMISSION MEETINGS: CASPARI BELIEVES THERE IS FULL AGREEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY TO THE US PROPOSAL ON TIMING - SHORT 3-5 DAY MEETINGS FOLLOWED BY 4-6 WEEK GAPS.

6. FIRST COMMISSION MEETINGS: CASPARI CONCURS THAT THE FIRST MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSIONS SHOULD BE SHORT AND ORGANIZATIONAL IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAT HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THE EC PREPARATIONS WILL HAVE PROCEEDED FAR ENOUGH TO ALLOW THE COMMUNITY GO BEYOND THAT.

7. OBSERVERS: CASPARI WAS INTERESTED IN OUR PROPOSED LIST FOR OBSERVERS AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD MAKE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IT KNOWN AT THE COREPER MEETING ON JANUARY 22. IN SOME CASES HE THOUGHT OUR LIST WAS SOMEWHAT OVER-RESTRICTIVE AND THAT CERTAIN OF THE ORGANIZATIONS ON IT SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO OBSERVE AT MORE COMMISSIONS THAN WE HAD SUGGESTED. HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE ON THIS POINT IF OTHERS WISHED IT. GREENWALD

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